

REMARKS

Claims 21-24, 28-32, 34 and 35 are pending in the application.

Claims 21-24, 28-32, 34 and 35 have been rejected.

Claims 21 and 28 have been amended. Support for these amendments can be found, at least, for example, at page 6, line 15; page 12, line 15; page 2, line 19; page 2, line 20; page 2, line 28; page 2, line 30; page 2, line 27; page 3, line 9; page 7, line 9; page 3, line 24; page 5, line 11; page 13, line 26; page 18, line 23; page 6, line 5; page 2, line 24; page 3, line 2; page 8, line 30; page 10, line 3; page 7, line 27; page 11, line 3; page 10, line 12; and page 41, line 17 of Applicants' specification.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner has rejected Claims 28-32 and 34-35 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Without conceding the propriety of the rejection, Applicants have amended Claim 28 to remove the recitation of the object manager. Applicants respectfully reserve the right to demonstrate in a subsequent response or in a continuation application, that the recited object manager is appropriate to a method claim. Applicants respectfully submit that this amendment overcomes the rejection of Claim 28 under 35 U.S.C. §103.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 21-24, 28, 31, 32, 34 and 35 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bayeh *et al.*, U.S. Patent No. 6,633,914 (*Bayeh-914*) in view of "Press return =

Click Button?" (8/1/1997) by Michael Cote (*Cote*). Microsoft TechNet, "Transmission Control Protocol" (*Technet*) is cited as evidence regarding TCP, and further in view of Whalen, U.S. Patent No. 5,948,066 (*Whalen*). Claims 29-30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Bayeh-914*, *Cote* and *Whalen* and further in view of alleged Applicants Admitted Prior Art (*AAPA*).

Applicants have amended independent claims 21 and 28 to recite limitations that are not taught or fairly suggested in the sections of *Bayeh-914*, *Whalen* and *Cote* that are cited in the Office Action. In particular, as discussed with the Examiner in the August 31 telephonic interview, independent Claim 21 has been amended to recite that

the first and second user interfaces are configured to be supported by a common metadata framework,
the first and second user interfaces comprise no business logic,
the common metadata framework contains definitions, characteristics, structure and usage of a set of data and processes,
the common metadata framework is configured to support the first and second user interfaces through a single metadata repository,
the common metadata framework is configured to support the first and second user interfaces through a single layout definition, a single business logic, a single set of data models and a single metadata manipulation tool,

Claim 21 (as amended). Similarly, independent Claim 28 has been amended to recite functionally comparable limitations. Example support for these newly added limitations can be found in the present Specification on page 6, line 15 and page 12, line 15.

Because, as discussed with the Examiner, these newly added limitations, among others, are not taught or fairly suggested in the sections of pages cited in the Office Action, either alone or in combination with the remaining limitations claims 21 and 28, Applicants assert these

independent claims are patentably distinguishable. The remaining claims depend directly or indirectly from independent claims 21 and 28 and are patentably distinguishable for this reason.

CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that all claims are now in condition for allowance, and an early notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. Nonetheless, should any issues remain that might be subject to resolution through a telephonic interview, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned.

If any extensions of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) are required in order for this submission to be considered timely, Applicant hereby petitions for such extensions. Applicant also hereby authorizes that any fees due for such extensions or any other fee associated with this submission, as specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17, be charged to deposit account 502306.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stephen A. Mason', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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